Welcome, HUPO

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With this issue, we initiate a new phase of the association of MCP with the Human Proteome Organisation (HUPO), a relationship that extends back to the inception of both ventures. Since the now historic first congress in Versailles in November 2002, MCP has been privileged to publish the abstracts/program of every HUPO congress. This was an important decision for a young journal but one that was in keeping with the principles enunciated at the time the journal was founded, to wit, that it meant to strive not only to record the progress of proteomics as it evolved as a science, but also to support the development of this relatively new field through appropriate ancillary activities. In addition to HUPO, its development of the standards for reporting protein identification data, established by an international workshop in Paris, and its support for translational research, particularly manifested in special issues of the journal devoted to clinical proteomics, are two other examples.

It is both significant and rewarding that MCP and HUPO have already grown into established entities that are making important contributions to the advancement of proteomics science. As outlined below in the editorial from the HUPO leadership, they have many important programs and initiatives ongoing and we are pleased that, as a designated official journal of HUPO, we will be one outlet for disseminating the news of these activities. The pages devoted to HUPO news will be separated and clearly marked so that they can be easily identified and browsed. We feel that this is a real addition to MCP and are pleased to be able to offer it to our readership. We encourage all individuals interested in proteomics to regularly peruse this section because it will undoubtedly contain important and interesting information and announcements.

We look forward to our continuing productive association with HUPO.
an Ethics Committee that ensures that all research conducted under the HUPO umbrella abides by certain protocols and codes of practice;

a Meetings Committee, which ascertains that all meetings of interest to the proteomics community get proper visibility;

a Publications Committee, which oversees the publication of all material stemming from research done under the auspices of HUPO;

a Membership Committee that provides the vital link between HUPO and its current and prospective members;

the HUPO Awards Committee, through which recognition for outstanding achievement is awarded;

the HUPO By-Law Committee, which is essential for the growth of such an organization.


Another highly publicized initiative is a two-fold effort chaired by Matthias Uhlen, with co-chairs Mike Snyder and Peter Hudson, who are putting together the Human Antibody Initiative and Protein Atlas. Two peer-reviewed publications in MCP highlight the scientific advances made by these initiatives, and ultimately these efforts will define a compendium of antibodies which are monospecific to a representative protein characteristic for each human gene product: Antibody-based proteomics for human tissue profiling (in Mol. Cell. Proteomics (2005) 4, 384–393) and A human protein atlas for normal and cancer tissues based on antibody proteomics (in Mol. Cell. Proteomics (2005) 4, 1920–1932).

The HUPO pages in MCP will update the community on current efforts of HUPO and various scientific aspects of proteomics that HUPO is coordinating, including an education and training effort. The latter is meant to assure each HUPO member a guaranteed success in characterizing proteins via the HUPO Test Samples, itself under the umbrella of the New Resources and Technology Committee chaired by John Yates.

Moreover, the HUPO pages in MCP will be an invaluable vehicle for dissemination of information throughout the proteomics community.

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